

Council Meeting
September 16, 2008 – 5:04 pm

The meeting was called to order by President Spaetti. Councilmen Spaetti, Ebert, Kroeger, Winsett, Kress, Cochenour, Bunner, and Attorney Wetherill were present.

Budget

Discussion was had on the budget. Kroeger expressed interest in delaying the approval of the budget until after the council had the opportunity to review the budgets of the other taxing units in the county. The others agreed. Ebert made a motion to table the approval of the budget until the October meeting with the understanding that it may again be tabled until November. Kress seconded. All in favor.

Minutes

08/13/2008 Minutes Joint Meeting; Bunner asked that an addition be made to the minutes discussing the change in the agenda from a needs determination to a meeting justifying the construction of a public safety building. Kroeger also asked for the deletion of a sentence that was duplicated. Cochenour made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Winsett seconded. All in favor.

08/19/2008 Minutes; Winsett made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Kroeger seconded. All in favor.

Jail Medical – CRS

Sheriff Lindsey discussed a contract he has entered into with CRS, Correctional Risk Services, Inc., which will save the county money on medical bills paid by the county for inmates. President Steve Kreal and Vice President D.J. Kreal of CRS explained that CRS will scrutinize all of the medical bills sent to the county for inmates and the fee they charge is 30% of the savings to the county. There will be no additional charge and the county will now have only one bill per month for all medical issues for the jail.

Bunner stated that insurance companies are in the business of rejecting claims. He asked if we will have that problem with CRS. Kreal stated that CRS is in the business of saving the county money and it is not their job to accept or reject claims, but they do question over-charges or individual line items which may have been charged incorrectly.

Kroeger asked how the process will work. Kreal said the Sheriff will have a card to present to the medical facilities stating to send the bills to CRS. When a bill is received, the jail will be contacted to get the dates

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of incarceration. CRS will then analyze the codes on the bills for errors or duplications, and whether any other insurance can be billed. The county will then be sent a consolidated bill with CRS receiving only 30% of the difference between the original bill and the final bill.

EMA Salary Ordinance Amendment

Shelton reminded the council of the request made at budget time by EMA Director Perdue to hire a deputy for his office using the money left after his assistant director left. The council agreed at budget time to pay the deputy the same as the majority of the other deputies in the courthouse, \$23,550. Spaetti stated that Perdue was unable to attend the meeting because he was assisting an adjacent county with an emergency. Kress made a motion to approve the salary ordinance amendment. Ebert seconded. All in favor.

Additional Appropriations

County General

Circuit Court / Pauper Attorney – Judge Roell requested an additional \$19,087 for the pauper attorney fund. Ebert made a motion to approve. Cochenour seconded. All in favor.

Commissioners / Legal Services – The commissioners requested an additional \$5,000 for legal services. Cochenour made a motion to approve. Kress seconded. All in favor.

Prosecutor / Office Supplies – Chief Deputy Prosecutor Wilkinson asked for an additional in office supplies in the amount of \$500. Kroeger made a motion to approve. Ebert seconded. All in favor.

Surveyor / Printer Ink – Surveyor Sublett was not present, but at budget hearings explained his need for more ink for a new printer which came with only a sample ink cartridge. Cochenour made a motion to approve the requested \$737. Ebert seconded. All in favor.

Courthouse / Telephone – The request for \$5,000 was tabled at the previous meeting. Shelton explained that the phone bills have been consistent for the last three years even though phone lines have been added. Bunner made a motion to approve the request. Kress seconded. All in favor.

Courthouse / Janitorial Supplies – \$2,500 was requested for Janitorial supplies for the courthouse. Discussion was had on buying in bulk. Ebert made a motion to approve \$2,000. Kroeger seconded. All in favor.

Sheriff / Gas, Oil and Lube – Sheriff Lindsey stated that even though an additional was just received, the auditor's office advised him that another fuel purchase will be made before the end of the year and \$20,000 will be needed. Discussion was had on his concern that other departments' fuel is being charged to him. The council will recommend that the commissioners look at putting a system in place to track who is fueling and how much is used. Bunner made a motion to approve the additional of \$20,000. Cochenour seconded. All in favor.

Sheriff / Meals – Lindsey requested an additional of \$35,000 for meals. Ebert made a motion to approve. Kress seconded. All in favor.

Children's PRTS

Housing of Wards – Connie Branch, Director of Child Services, requested an additional of \$38,210 for the housing of wards. Branch was not present to answer questions. Discussion was had on the requirement for departments to have a representative present when an additional is requested. Kroeger made a motion to approve the requested amount. Ebert seconded. The motion passes 5 to 2 with Kress and Winsett opposing due to the director not being present.

Rainy Day Fund

Drainage / Projects per Drainage Advisory Board Plan – At the previous council meeting Drainage Board President Logsdon requested an additional \$19,000 as an advance on the 2009 drainage plan in order to continue work as long as the weather is good. Ebert made a motion to approve. Cochenour seconded. All in favor.

COIT

LTRSD Facilitator – Kathy Tretter, President of the Regional Chamber of Commerce, attended a prior meeting and requested help in paying for the facilitator hired for the Luce Township Regional Sewer District. The difference between what they anticipated and the final bill was \$3,250. Cochenour made a motion to approve the requested \$3,250. Bunner seconded. All in favor.

Riverboat

Commissioners / SOB Legal Expenses – The commissioners requested \$5,000 for legal expenses resulting from the pending litigation with the 231 Truck Stop. Kroeger made a motion to approve. Ebert seconded. All in favor.

Law Enforcement Fund

Investigative Expenses – Wilkinson explained the need for an increase in investigative services in executive session. Cochenour made a motion to approve. Bunner seconded. All in favor.

Cum Cap

Telephone System / Prosecutor – Wilkinson stated that the prosecutor’s office requested a new phone system during the budget hearings and the council instructed them to request the money yet this year from Cum Cap. Ebert made a motion to approve the \$3,000 request. Bunner seconded. All in favor.

Plan Commission / Computer – Theresa Cail requested \$1,600 for a computer for the plan commission deputy, who is currently using a computer which is seven years old and cannot be upgraded adequately to perform her duties. Cochenour made a motion to approve. Kroeger seconded. All in favor.

Transfers

Surveyor – The surveyor, who was not present, requested a transfer from Computer Supplies to Maintenance in the amount of \$17.49. Kroeger made a motion to approve the transfer. Ebert seconded. All in favor. The motion passed 6 to 1 with Winsett opposing due to the surveyor not being present.

Assessor – The assessor, who was not present, requested a transfer from Extra Help to PERF in the amount of \$500 and a transfer from Computer Supplies to Office Machines in the amount of \$61. Kroeger made a motion to approve both transfers. Ebert seconded. The motion passed with Winsett opposing due to the assessor not being present.

Luce Township Regional Sewer District

Matt Steinkamp, the council’s appointed member to the LTRSD Board, reported that when the COIT check is received the board has voted to make a payment to Freedom Bank toward the principle of the loan. He also stated that the district office is moving to donated office space owned by Jim Stevenson to save the district approximately \$480. Steinkamp further reported that he currently had seven more easements being recorded and is working on more. The board is also working on developing a website to get information to the district. Ebert asked if the district has checked into filing for grants with Indiana 15. Steinkamp stated that most grants want a start date and the district will not be able to give them a date. Ed Ingram stated that some people have requested their easements back. Steinkamp said one person has submitted a letter with a request to have their easement back.

Steinkamp also stated that the board is working on a possible “No Go” ordinance which would state that if the average sewer bill would be over a set amount than the board must reject the plan. Steinkamp stated that the board is trying to rebuild the trust from the community. Ingram stated that he will vote against the ordinance because after the easements are in, the board could change the ordinance. Steinkamp stated that they are looking at the best way to craft the ordinance to protect the community.

Thank you

The council thanked the county highway workers for all of the work they did clearing roads after the wind storm.

Ebert made a motion to adjourn. Kress seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:53 pm.

County Council,

_____ President	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
Attest:	_____
_____	_____
Cindy Shelton, Auditor	_____